

## **Protection of urban spaces**

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Protection of urban spaces against vehicle attacks has become a big issue in Europe. The European Commission has recently awarded appr. 100 Mio Euros for a programme on the security of urban spaces (research and innovative best practise examples). The bollard industry has launched different initiatives (advertisement, code development, etc.) telling decision makers; you have a problem, we have the solution. But society and architecture sociologists oppose that installing bollards at outstanding urban public spaces restricts freedom and is against a city planning philosophy that is based on urbanity. Consequently, we have an interesting debate where we protective structures engineers are challenged. The paper and the presentation will deal with the following aspects: risk study, societal debate, barrier solutions – from standard bollards to innovative barriers. Finally, a case study and a best practise example will be demonstrated.